

INFORMATION REPORT

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Religion, VOA and BBC Broadcasts, Partisan Activity

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During world war II, the MGB had orders to round up all Volga Germans. Soviet planes carrying German-speaking troops of the MGB dressed in German uniforms were flown to selected localities, where the troops would request from the Volga Germans intelligence on the location of Soviet troops. After obtaining the desired information, the fake Germans would depart. Soon thereafter they would return on the pretext that they were fleeing from the Soviet troops and would request the local population to hide them in their homes. Soviet troops in Soviet uniforms would then arrive and demand to know where the "Germans" were. When they were told that there were none in the vicinity, signal rockets would be fired and other MGB troops in hiding would arrive and join in rounding up the people and sending them to prison camps behind the Urals. [redacted] groups of Volga German de-
portees, consisting of women and children only, at Dzhide, Buryat-Mongol ASSR, approximately 100 miles southwest of Ulan Ude on the Ulan Ude-Naushki rail line.

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2. Another example, also learned second-hand [redacted] is that of the Chechenets of the Chechen-Ingush ASSR. After the MGB received orders to round up the Chechenets, agents would be sent to a village to spread rumors that Soviet troops on maneuvers would be passing through a certain area. The Chechenets were told that it would be wise for them to turn out en masse to greet the troops. This they would do, in full battle regalia. The MGB would send some troops into the area while others would encircle the area, with the result that very few of the Chechenets got away.

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3. [redacted] deportees in both of the above-mentioned cases were allowed only 20 kg of baggage. Most of them chose food items. [redacted] the deportees tried to destroy their personal property before being taken away.

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4. [redacted] the Soviets have returned to Japan only the trusted, politically well-indoctrinated prisoners who can act as a Communist avant-garde in case of need. The Soviet authorities treated these prisoners very well. Prisoners ate and lived better than Soviet

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citizens. They were given extensive courses in political and Party matters. Japanese officers were appointed in charge of other Japanese. When a Japanese officer mistreated his men, he was arrested and tried by a Japanese court-martial. If found guilty, he was punished. In extreme cases, Japanese were authorized to shoot the condemned. In cases in which a Soviet officer was found to be mistreating the prisoners, the officer would be brought to punishment. Trials were conducted in the presence of the Japanese. However, the mock verdicts of imprisonment for Soviet personnel amounted to transfer to another unit, of course without the knowledge of the Japanese.

5. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

6. [redacted] 50X1-HUM since the war church attendance has been on the increase. 50X1-HUM
Marriages, christenings, and engagements are frequent occurrences. Younger persons of both sexes are frequently seen with their families in churches. 50X1-HUM
[redacted] On holidays attendance 50X1-HUM
is even greater than usual. Attendance continues in spite of the fact that the MVD and MGB have planted fake priests throughout the church. 50X1-HUM
[redacted] a specific case [redacted] One [redacted] army buddies married a girl in church on the insistence of the girl's family. [redacted]
[redacted] after the ceremony the priest asked him whether he was a Communist. The officer said he was but that he had been forced into the ceremony by his wife's family, whereupon the priest pushed aside his vestments and showed the officer his rank of colonel. [redacted] if 50X1-HUM
the Soviet Government discovers that church popularity is attaining great proportions, it will abolish the churches again. 50X1-HUM

7. Voice of America broadcasts have been jammed very badly. The Soviets pay particular attention to broadcasts from the United States. Broadcasts from the BBC are clear and come through fine. [redacted] all of the broadcasts 50X1-HUM
in Sary Krym in 1949 on 180 medium wave length receiver Ural. BBC announced at the time that its station would broadcast on four main wave lengths and one auxiliary. Soviet attempts at jamming were unsuccessful. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
the following broadcasts:

Monetary reform in the Soviet Union
Rail workers' strike in Berlin, January 1949
Atlantic Pact broadcasts
Pirogov's flight to the US Zone of Germany
BBC's management and policies re broadcasts to the Soviet Union
Methods and tactics of Soviet elections

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8. [redacted] the nature of broadcasts by the BBC impressed [redacted]
listeners not as propaganda but more for the comparison which was left to the imagination of the listeners. The Russian language on the BBC broadcasts is correct and well understood by all. [redacted] these broadcasts are of great importance. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] out of ten listeners, one becomes an involuntary propagandist. Any criticism of the Communist system and of the socialistic order in general is welcomed by those fortunate to hear broadcasts, provided it is an honest analysis and not propaganda.

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- 9 In 1948 in Kramatorsk, Ukraine, a band of fully armed men attacked a convoy which was delivering wheat from the kolkhoz to the government. The band was successful in high-jacking the convoy but was later captured and put to trial. []

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[] if there are any cases of partisan activity, such news can be circulated only by word of mouth.

[] Comment: Since this covers the war period, this reference is obviously to one of the forerunners of MGB, either OGB/OKVD (June 1941-May 1943) or MGB (May 1943-March 1946).

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